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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Yi-Jyun Lin et al. Art Unit : 1646
Serial No.: 09/978,486 Examiner : Janet L. Andres
Filed : October 15, 2001
Title : METHUSELAH GENE, COMPOSITIONS AND METHODS OF USE

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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RESPONSE

In response to the action mailed December 18, 2002, please amend the application as follows:

In the claims:

Please amend claims 1, 4 and 18-21 as follows:

--1. (**Thrice Amended**) An antibody that selectively binds to a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of:

a) a polypeptide encoded by a nucleic acid molecule which hybridizes in 0.1 x SSC at 68°C to a nucleic acid molecule comprising SEQ ID NO:1, wherein 1) the polypeptide is a GPCR, 2) failure to express the polypeptide results in embryonic lethality in *Drosophila*, and 3) hypomorphic expression of the polypeptide increases resistance to heat stress in *Drosophila*;

b) a polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence which is at least 85% homologous to the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2, wherein 1) the polypeptide is a GPCR, 2) failure to express the polypeptide results in embryonic lethality in

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